National media policy for electronic Media

2721. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to adopt a national media policy for the electronic media;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) At present there is no concrete proposal to bring out a National Media Policy for electronic media. However, a sub-committee of the Consultative Committee members attached to the Ministry is envisaged to be constituted for preparing a Positional Paper/working Paper on National Media Policy, including the Electronic Media in consultation with Media Experts.

Independent news rooms of AIR in certain places

2722. SHRIMATI ILA PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether Government propose to set up independent news rooms under the aegis of All India Radio in Sambalpur, Jeypore, Keonjhar; Baripada and Berhampur, as regional Bulletins are not clearly audible in the above areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): No, Sir. All India Radio stations at Sambalpur, Jeypore, Keonjhar and Baripada which relay the regional news bulletins from All India Radio, Cuttack are now receiving the bulletins from Cuttack through satellite thereby ensuring satisfactory quality of reception in their programme zones.

Rescinding the newsprint control order, 1962

2723. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation for rescinding the Newsprint control order, 1962 and if so, what is the reaction of Government; and

(b) what are the reasons given in the aforesaid representation in favour of their demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The Indian Newspaper Society (INS) has represented for rescinding the Newsprint Control order, 1962 to enable newspapers to purchase newsprint from any source of their choice. The Newsprint Control Order is adminstered by the Ministry of Industry who would keep the representation in view while taking a decision in the matter.

CNN's offer to Doordarshan

2724. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cable News Network (CNN) has offered entertainment programmes from its repertoire to Doordarshan on a "purely commercial basis";

(b) whether the Network reportedly evinced interest in a transponder